

Remarks and Arguments

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 1,2,7,8 and 13 are rejected while claims 3-6 and 9-12 are objected to.

With this amendment claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled with their limitations being substantially incorporated into now-amended claim 3. Additionally, claims 7 and 8 have been amended to correct minor informalities while claim 13 has been amended to provide for proper dependency.

In view of these amendments and the following discussion, the applicants submit that all of the claims now present in the application are allowable. If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Jeffery J. Brosmer, Ph.D., ESQ. At 732-335-5773, so that arrangements may be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-12 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, the applicants have amended claim 3 such that it now substantially includes all of those limitations originally recited in claims 1 and 2 (now cancelled). In addition, claims 7 and 8 have been amended to correct the minor informalities which precipitated their rejection under the provisions of 35 USC §112. As a result, the applicants submit that claims 3-12 are now all allowable.

Claims Rejections 35 USC 112

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under the provisions of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite. More particularly, these claims were judged indefinite because the variables "R" and "K" (claim 7) and the variable "F" (claim 8) were not defined. In response, the applicants have amended these claims such that they now provide the proper definition.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claim1 was rejected under the provisions of 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Wu et al (US 2003/0007889). With this amendment, claim 1 has been cancelled with its limitations now substantially incorporated into amended claim 3.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 2 and 13 were rejected under the provisions of 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable overWu et al (US 2003/0007889) as applied to claim 1, further in view of Elliot et al. (US Patent No. 2005/0063389). As noted, claim 2 has been cancelled and claim 13 has been amended such that it now depends upon and further limits allowable claim 3. Accordingly, the applicants submit that claim 13 is now patentable in view of the cited references.

Conclusion

The applicants submit that all of the claims now present in the application fully comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 35 U.S.C. § 102, and 35 U.S.C. § 103 and therefore are allowable. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 4-APR-2007.

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